

chess club, Odyssey of the Mind, the arts, and numerous class trips.

I commend Kathleen Ricker for shaping the hearts and minds of so many central Iowans. I wish her a lifetime of joy, prosperity, happiness and faith as she embarks on her next journey. I know that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating Kathleen Ricker on this celebratory milestone.

FRANK R. LAUTENBERG CHEMICAL SAFETY FOR THE 21ST CENTURY ACT, (H.R. 2576)

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I support the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act because it offers Americans meaningful protection from exposure to dangerous, unregulated chemicals found in the products we use every day. This bill represents a substantive step in favor of public health, but it's far from what's needed.

Today, the status quo isn't working. Industries can release hundreds of chemicals each year into our homes and workplaces without any federal requirement to consider their safety. Researchers have linked chemicals used in things like household cleaners, clothing, and furniture, to serious illnesses like cancer, infertility, diabetes and Parkinson's. The current law, the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), isn't up to the job. It restricts the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from doing much of anything about these dangers. Under TSCA, only a small fraction of the thousands of chemicals used in our products have ever been reviewed for safety.

The current law is so weak that the EPA couldn't even regulate asbestos. In 1989, after 10 years of research and more than 100,000 pages of administrative record supporting action, the EPA issued a rule under TSCA to ban most uses of asbestos. But two years later, the EPA's regulation was overturned by the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals; while acknowledging that "asbestos is a potential carcinogen at all levels of exposure," the Court ruled that the agency's administrative record failed to demonstrate that the regulation was the "least burdensome alternative," as required under the law. Since the court's ruling, the burden to regulate most toxic substances under TSCA has been insurmountable.

The Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act is an important improvement over TSCA. It would require reviews for chemicals in use today, mandating greater scrutiny of new chemicals, and removing barriers that have prevented the EPA from regulating highly toxic substances in the past, such as asbestos.

This reform is necessary, but it's not adequate. The Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety Act doesn't do everything public health and safety demand. Unfortunately, it bows to chemical industry, which stood in the way of reform for so long, in key provisions. For example, the chemical industry demanded and got unprecedented state preemption standards in the bill. It also imposes limitations on the EPA's ability to monitor chemicals in imported

products. Federal policy should be a floor, not a ceiling, for public health and safety. States, like my Minnesota, have led the way in creating chemical safety standards that protect their residents. Last year in Minnesota, we took an important step toward protecting children and firefighters' health when the legislature passed a law to prohibit toxic flame retardants.

For my part, I will continue to be an advocate for reform that protects public health, not special interests like the chemical industry.

HONORING THE ROTARY CLUB OF ALBUQUERQUE

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the 100th Anniversary of the Rotary Club of Albuquerque, which was chartered on July 1, 1916, with 31 charter members embracing the Rotary International motto of Service Above Self.

Community service projects have been a central theme throughout the club's history. Among the first efforts of the Albuquerque Club was "boosting" the climate and health facilities of the city, at a time when tuberculosis sanatoriums were a leading industry. Rotarians promoted and supported good roads for Albuquerque when it became apparent that the automobile was imperative to future growth. The Club helped direct attention to the recurring problem of flooding from the Rio Grande, and generated local support for the institution of the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District, which continues to deal with a variety of critical water issues today.

Over the years, the Club has played an important role in the expansion of cultural life in Albuquerque. Members launched the Symphony Orchestra in 1932, which is now the New Mexico Philharmonic that has delighted and inspired audiences for over half a century. The Club also helped sustain the Albuquerque Little Theater for nearly as long.

In more recent years, the Rotary Club co-sponsored the Grand Opening of the New Mexico Natural History Museum and provided major sponsorship for the "Children's Fantasy Garden" at the Albuquerque Biological Park. Members are currently leading a Signature Centennial Project to provide \$500,000 to the Explora! Museum for the "Working Together to Build a Village" project, which will lead participants to experiment with science, engineering, architecture and the daily application of the construction process, encouraging an appreciation for STEM.

As it completes its first century of service in our city, the Rotary Club of Albuquerque will continue to play a leading role in helping solve problems and improve the community. The moral and ethical foundation of Rotary is timeless, and will continue to inspire members with a sense of civic pride and service for many years to come.

RECOGNIZING BRYAN "SCOTTIE" IRVING AND BLUE SKYE DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing and commending Bryan "Scottie" Irving, president of Blue Skye Development and Construction as our 2016 D.C. Small Business of the Year. The D.C. Small Business of the Year is named annually at our D.C. Small Business Fair, and serves as an example to inspire D.C. small businesses on what can be accomplished by small businesses here.

We selected Blue Skye Development and Construction not only because of its successes as a small business in the highly competitive construction field, but also because of the company's work in providing affordable housing in the District. No area of entrepreneurship for businesses of every size today is more difficult than affordable housing. Blue Skye is working in Southeast D.C. to provide affordable condominium units for District residents. Blue Skye is experienced in local construction, and has worked on Marleyridge Condominiums, Arena Condominiums, Terrell Jr. High School, the Office of Public Education Facilities Modernization, Tewkesbury Condominiums, Washington Highlands Neighborhood Library, Rosedale Recreation Center, Park 7, Hayes Street Apartments, and Bald Eagle Recreation Center.

Bryan "Scottie" Irving is a fifth generation Washingtonian with very strong ties to the District of Columbia. Mr. Irving is a graduate of Cardozo High School and Central State University in Ohio. Before founding Blue Skye Development and Construction, Bryan was a D.C. public school teacher and also had a successful career as vice president of basketball and football recruitment with Business Arena Inc., a sports marketing firm. Today, Blue Skye serves government, residential, and commercial clients across the national capital region. The company is an example and a role model for D.C. residents and small businesses who seek to succeed in business by providing outstanding service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Bryan "Scottie" Irving of Blue Skye Development and Construction, this year's D.C. Small Business of the Year, for his noteworthy accomplishments in the construction of affordable housing and numerous government and other projects.

MARIAH GREEN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Mariah Green for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Mariah Green is a 12th grader at Pomona High School and received this award because